

THE RADIO RECORD

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Grand Opera Series from all Stations

"Valkyrie" next week from 3YA and 4YA

The policy of giving a series of operatic presentations from electrically-reproduced records of the world's greatest singers is announced by the Radio Broadcasting Company. Explanatory matter will be given with each instalment.



HERE are many lovers of grand opera, and there would be many more if operatic performances were more numerous, but it is given to comparatively few people, even in the old lands, to be able to frequent the theatres in order to educate their taste to this form of entertainment. Frequently, those who attend the opera but rarely come away disappointed for the simple reason that they have gone expecting something that is not there. Consequently, they have failed to get the full value of what is there—through their not having noticed it. It is not to be expected that one can attend this exotic form of entertainment and at once comprehend its deepest subtleties. Opera differs from spoken drama in that the "song" is the chief thing and the other factors, as words and action, are sacrificed in greater or less degree.

Operas contain some of the finest music ever composed, and the broadcasting of it is a source both of pleasure and of education, provided it is not overdone. It is therefore intended that the best of the operas should be broadcast in short instalments every week from 2YA, 3YA and 4YA. Each instalment will be accompanied by an explanation of the plot, and listeners who follow these broadcasts will be able to form a due appreciation of the various grand operas.

The radio presentation will not, of course, have the staging which attends a production in a theatre, but as gramophone records will be used, electrically reproduced, listeners will be able to hear the world's most famous singers in the various roles. Accompanied, as the music will be, with a synopsis of the story, the radio presentation will leave little to be desired.

The first opera to be broadcast in this way will be Wagner's "The Valkyrie." The dates arranged will appear in the programmes of the various stations. The first of these broadcasts will take place next week at 3YA and 4YA, on Wednesday and Friday respectively, when the first of the four instalments of the opera will be presented.

"THE VALKYRIE"

(The name of the opera is pronounced "Vahl-keur-reh")

Characters:

Sigmund (Zeeg'-moond) Tenor
Hundung (Hoond'-ing) Bass
Wotan (Voh'-tahn) Baritone
Sieglinde (Zeeg'-lin'-deh) Soprano
Brunnhilde (Bruen-hill'dsh) Soprano
Fricka (Frik'-ah) Soprano
Valkyries—Gerhilde, Ortlinde, Waltraute, Schwertleite, Helmwig, Siegrune, Grimgerde, Rossweise.



Brunnhilde bearing a wounded warrior to Walhalla.

ACT I.

INTERIOR of Hundung's Hut in the forest—a large tree rises through the roof.

A terrible storm is raging. Sigmund, weaponless, wounded, spent, finds his way into the house of Hundung, where he is received and comforted by Sieglinde. When Hundung returns he perceives an extraordinary likeness between the two, and learns that the stranger was brought up by his father Wolsung in the woods, whither they had fled after their home had been ravaged and his infant sister carried off by the Neidungs. Knowing now that he entertains a mortal enemy, Hundung, out of hospitality, permits Sigmund to remain for the night, but declares that on the morrow he shall die. Sieglinde is dismissed, but she glances significantly at the ash-tree, the pillar of the hut, where the hilt of a sword is visible. She mixes with Hundung's night-draught a potion to make him sleep

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